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USS California (SSN 781)

The seventh ship to bear the state's name, USS California (SSN 781), was commissioned in Norfolk, VA, in 2011. Her motto "Silentium est Aureum" means "silence is golden," underscoring the value of stealth in submarine warfare and honoring California's nickname "The Golden State." More than 100 ships have been named after the state of California, its cities, places, and people. A few of those ships include:

USS Alameda (AO 10), 1919 USS Alpine (APA 92), 1943 USS Butte (APA 68), 1944 USS Butte (APA 68), 1944
California I (Screw Sloop), 1870
California II (Armored Cruiser No. 6), 1907
USS California III (S.P. 249), 1917
USS California III (S.P. 249), 1917
USS California IV (No. 647), 1917
USS California VI (CGN 36), 1974
USS California VI (CGN 36), 1974
USS California VI (SSN 781), 2011
USS Carney (DDG 64), 1996
USS Coronado (PF 38), 1943
USS Coronado (LCS 4), 2014
USS Cuyama (AO 3), 1917
USS Glendale (PF 36), 1943
USS Half Moon (AVP 26), 1943
USS Long Beach II (AK 9), 1917
USS Long Beach II (PF 34), 1943
USS Long Beach III (CGN 9), 1961 USS Long Beach III (CGN 9), 1961 USS Los Angeles I (Screw Tanker), 1917

USS Los Angeles III (CA 135), 1945
USS Los Angeles IV (SSN 688), 1976
USS Mariano G. Vallejo (SSBN 658), 1966
USS Michael Monsoor (DDG 1001), 2019
Monterey II (Monitor No. 6), 1893
USS Monterey (CVL 26), 1943
USS Monterey (CVL 26), 1943
USS Oakland (CL 95), 1943
USS Oakland (CL 95), 1943
USS Robert K. Huntington (DD 781), 1945
Sacramento I (Screw Sloop), 1863
USS Sacramento (PG 19), 1914
USS Sacramento (AOE 1), 1964
USS San Diego (CL 53), 1942
USS San Diego (LPD 22), 2012
San Francisco (CA 38), 1934
USS San Francisco (CA 38), 1934
USS San Francisco (SSN 711), 1981
USS Yosemite (Screw Steamer), 1911
USS Yosemite (AD 19), 1944



Robert K. Huntington Aviation Radioman 3rd Class

Born in Los Angeles, CA, in 1921, Robert Huntington received the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism and extraordinary achievement as rear gunner in a torpedo plane during an attack against enemy Japanese forces in the Battle of Midway. USS Robert K. Huntington (DD 781) was named in his honor in 1945.



Roy "Butch" Voris Captain

California native Voris, a World War II flying ace in the Pacific theater, was handpicked by Adm. Chester Nimitz in 1946 to organize a flight demonstration team to showcase naval aviation. Voris led the newly named Blue Angels and their Grumman F-6F Hellcats in the team's first public performance.



Elmo Russell Zumwalt Jr. **Chief of Naval Operations**

Elmo Russell Zumwalt Jr. was born in San Francisco, CA. At 49 years old, he became the youngest officer to hold the post of Chief of Naval Operations. As a social reformer, he improved quality of life for Sailors and advanced equality for minorities and women in the Navy. USS Zumwalt (DDG 1000), commissioned in 2016, was named in his honor.



Did you know?

California is officially nicknamed "The Golden State" because of the discovery of gold in 1848 and its fields of golden poppies that bloom each spring.



Naval Base San Diego is the principal homeport of the Pacific Fleet, consisting of many Navy ships, one Coast Guard cutter, seven Military Sealift Command logistical support platforms, and several research and auxiliary vessels. Naval Base San Diego is home to 213 individual commands, each having specific and specialized fleet support purposes.



Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake is located in the Western Mojave Desert region of California, approximately 150 miles north of Los Angeles. The installation is the Navy's largest single landholding, representing 85 percent of the Navy's land for Research, Development, Acquisition, Test and Evaluation (RDATSE) use and 38 percent of the Navy's landholdings worldwide.